

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 772

By Faison

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Dr. Bill Henry and Dr. Jeff Foster of Vision Source of Newport.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly recognize those Tennessee businesses that have a longstanding commitment to providing exceptional service to the citizens of this State; and

WHEREAS, since 1950, Vision Source of Newport has been the leader and preferred provider of quality vision care products and personalized optometric services in Newport and surrounding areas, and much of its success is owed to the dedication of the excellent optometrists who have been members of the practice during its nearly seventy-year history; and

WHEREAS, originally located at 122 Court Avenue, the practice was founded on October 17, 1950, by Dr. Nathan F. Ford, who worked there until his retirement in 1990; during his tenure, he represented House District 11 as a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives for the 90<sup>th</sup>, 91<sup>st</sup>, 92<sup>nd</sup>, and 93<sup>rd</sup> General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bill Henry joined the practice in 1961, the same year it relocated to 303 East Broadway; he retired in 2000, after nearly four decades of dedicated service; and

WHEREAS, the optometric physicians currently practicing at Vision Source of Newport are Dr. Jeff Foster, Dr. Kurt Steele, and Dr. Emily Eisenhower, three preeminent practitioners who are devoted to delivering the highest quality patient care with compassion and kindness; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jeff Foster joined Vision Source of Newport in 1981; he served as an associate of Dr. Ford and Dr. Henry, eventually being named a partner in the practice. A graduate of the Southern College of Optometry, he has served as president of the Tennessee Association of Optometric Physicians (TAOP) and has been voted TAOP's Tennessee

Optometrist of the Year as well as Tennessee Optometrist of the Decade, an award that the organization has given only twice; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Dr. Kurt Steele joined the practice as an associate, earning the status of partner in 1997; he has also served as president of TAOP and been voted Tennessee Optometrist of the Year. In addition to his work at Vision Source of Newport, he travels extensively across the country educating other optometrists; and

WHEREAS, the newest member of the team, Dr. Emily Eisenhower joined the practice as an associate in May 2017; in part because of her dedication to the Newport community and the fact that she worked at the practice as a high school student, she was named a partner only two months later. A Newport native, she graduated *summa cum laude* from East Tennessee State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry and a minor in Public Health and *cum laude* from the Southern College of Optometry; and

WHEREAS, Vision Source of Newport has also benefited from the acumen and ability of Dr. Jeremy Diamond, who worked at the practice from 2007-2010, and Dr. Joy Stone, who worked as an associate from 2010-2016; Dr. Diamond currently owns his own practice in Jefferson City, and Dr. Stone practices in North Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Vision Source of Newport has thrived and experienced growth that has necessitated multiple relocations. On June 10, 2002, the practice moved into a newly constructed facility on 115 Hendrick Drive; then, on July 31, 2017, the practice moved into its current edifice at 1823 Crowe Lane; and

WHEREAS, with nearly forty years of service to their credit, Dr. Bill Henry and Dr. Jeff Foster were foundational members of the practice that Dr. Nathan Ford began in 1950, and through their hard work and commitment, they have ensured that Vision Source of Newport will continue to serve the people of Newport and surrounding areas for years to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize and honor Dr. Bill Henry, Dr. Jeff Foster, and the team at

Vision Source of Newport for their superior service to the citizens of Tennessee, extending our best wishes for much continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.